

Office of Communications

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Falls Church City Encourages Residents to Get Flu Shots Today Flu Shots Available at Fairfax County Health Department District Offices

FALLS CHURCH, VA – The City of Falls Church Housing & Human Services Division is encouraging all residents to protect themselves against influenza (flu), a contagious viral respiratory illness, by getting a flu shot now.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the supply of vaccine for this flu season is good and it is appropriate at this time that all people – especially those at greatest risk for complications from flu – get a flu shot.

Because it can take up to two weeks for a flu shot to provide protection, people should get a vaccine early in the flu season, which typically runs from October until April, when people spend more time indoors. The illness peaks in January and February.

Flu vaccines are available by appointment at the Health Department's five district offices in Fairfax County, and cost \$25. City of Falls Church residents can make an appointment at the Falls Church District Office by calling 703-534-8343.

For more information about the flu or the flu vaccine, or to speak to a public health nurse, call the Health Department at 703-246-2411, TTY 703-591-6435.

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Hamlett Tract Purchase Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2005 Page 2

"This is the largest undeveloped parcel remaining in the City. Because the property is adjacent to existing land owned by the City, and portions of it are in the floodplain, the Open Space Task Force believes that this was a critical purchase," Buschow says. He also notes that the project demonstrates the City's commitment to open space and will benefit the environment and the floodplain.

Funding for the purchase was allocated last spring, when the City refinanced a 1995 series bond to take advantage of lower interest rates. The savings from that bond refinancing were dedicated to open space acquisition in the FY06 Budget, and will be used for this purchase.

The City's Recreation & Parks staff will begin a parks Master Plan process for this space, similar to each of the other parks in the City, when the sale is finalized.

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